177 taken place in such forms of communication as radio, telegraph and tele-
206 phone. Compared with 1940 the number of radio points in 1952 was more
207 than doubled. By this time communication had been established between Yakutsk and rural localities and machine-tractor stations, and 225 nasleg soviets had been linked by telephone. Many rayons and nasleg soviets are now equipped with radios.

205 The extent of the postal routes is 65,000 kilometers, practically twice the length of the equator.

Towns and Cities

● 633 The capital of the Yakut ASSR is the city of Yakutsk, which used to be the oblast center. Here are concentrated the most important Yakut Republic offices, ministries, banks, scientific institutes, and higher and secondary schools. During the Soviet period Yakutsk has been turned into a major industrial center. The water system laid in Yakutsk has the deepest water-intake point in the world. The problem of obtaining subsoil water for this water system was an extremely difficult one because of the permafrost. Engineers worked hard to solve this problem even before the Revolution, though never successfully. Soviet technicians and working people have solved it. Subpermafrost water is now fed into the main water supply. Stone bathhouses, mechanized laundries, barbershops and other such enterprises for the personal use of the population did not come into being until the Soviet regime. The streets of the city are paved with wood blocks and sidewalks have been constructed. Yakutsk is rapidly developing.

[365]

Over the last few years Yakutsk has been changing from wooden buildings to brick and sometimes reinforced concrete buildings. Bus routes between the city and neighboring regions are now in operation.

871 In Yakutsk there are 22 secondary, seven-year and primary schools.
368 They are attended by about 9000 children. In the city there are 16 tekhnikums, various courses, and a pedagogical institute, a Yakut Theatre of Music and Drama, a Russian drama theatre, two movie houses and seven clubs. The Pushkin Science Library, the Yaroslavskiy Yakutsk Regional Museum and the Yakutsk Museum of Fine Arts are great favorites with the citizens.

743 There are hospitals in the city and it is also there that the research
744 institutes and laboratories are to be found. In 1947 a research base of the USSR Academy of Sciences was opened there, and in 1949 it was turned into the Yakutsk branch of the Academy. In the same year there was opened a Yakutsk branch of the Tuberculosis Institute of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Agriculture

241 In pre-Revolutionary Yakutiya the poor and middle peasant families
233 totaled more than 80 percent of all households. One-seventh of all the
565 households were entirely without sowings, and many were only able to sow a few hundredths of a hectare each. Most of the households (97 percent) had to do without factory-made agricultural implements. Stockbreeding produced extremely poor results. The owners of large areas of land and abundant livestock i.e.,—the kulaks and toyons, grew rich, but not so much by raising the level of land cultivation and animal husbandry as by exploiting the poor and middle peasants.